



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: The Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States, has issued the following proclamation; and
- WHEREAS: Today, the United States has lost a close friend, South Africa has lost an incomparable liberator, and the world has lost an inspiration for freedom, justice, and human dignity – Nelson Mandela is no longer with us, he belongs to the ages; and
- WHEREAS: Nelson Mandela achieved more than could be expected of any man. His own struggle inspired others to believe in the promise of a better world, and the rightness of reconciliation. Through his fierce dignity and unbending will to sacrifice his own freedom for the freedom of others, he transformed South Africa – and moved the entire world. His journey from a prisoner to a President embodied the promise that human beings – and countries – can change for the better. His commitment to transfer power and reconcile with those who jailed him set an example that all humanity should aspire to, whether in the life of nations or our own personal lives; and
- WHEREAS: While we mourn his loss, we will forever honor Nelson Mandela's memory. He left behind a South Africa that is free and at peace with itself – a close friend and partner of the United States. And his memory will be kept in the hearts of billions who have been lifted up by the power of his example; and
- WHEREAS: We will not see the likes of Nelson Mandela again. It falls to us to carry forward the example that he set – to make decisions guided not by hate, but by love; to never discount the difference that one person can make; and to strive for a future that is worthy of his sacrifice. For now, let us pause and give thanks for the fact that Nelson Mandela lived – a man who took history in his hands, and bent the arc of the moral universe toward justice; and
- WHEREAS: The Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States, has ordered that the flag of the United States shall be flown at half-staff upon all public buildings and grounds, at all military posts and naval stations, and on all naval vessels of Federal Government throughout the United States and its Territories and possessions until sunset, December 9, 2013.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby order that all United States and Minnesota flags be flown at half-staff at all state and federal buildings in the State of Minnesota, from now until sunset, December 9, 2013, as a mark of respect for the memory of Nelson Mandela.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 6th day of December.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE